

critical digest

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Feb 13, 1961 Vol XII No 47 The Weekly NYC Theatre Newsletter Digest Service-11th year - Published 52 weeks a year \$25 per year

This Week in NYC

A specific program is being formulated by the "Committee for the Promotion of the Entertainment Industry", Vincent Sardi, Jr, chairman, to present to Mayor Wagner within two weeks measures to both beautify the Times Square area and to reduce the honky-tonk atmosphere. Nine member group met with the NYC mayor last week and was promised speedy action.

Plays

All Broadway productions played during the two day snowstorm, with all stars reporting for work. Managements exchanged tickets for future performances for those unable to attend... Wildcat suspended performances Feb 6-20 because of illness of Lucille Ball. Her doctor recommended rest in Florida sun because of virus infection, physical exhaustion and bursitis in her right leg... How To Make A Man played its opening night performance, then suspended for the rest of the first week and resumed this Mon. Producers had to settle financial difficulties with the stagehand's union and theatre owner Michael Meyerberg.

Period of Adjustment scheduled to close Feb 18, but may go on tour... The Wall has received 100 more contributions from all over the country, in amounts from \$3 to \$250... Rod Alexander replaced John Fearnley as director of 13 Daughters... Mandingo a new play by Jack Kirkland, based on Kyle Onstott's novel to be presented in Apr by Billy Baxter and Edward B Friedman, Louis Macmillan to direct Civil War drama.

Players

Joanna Merlin replaced Dran Seitz, Becket, who left to join The Happiest Girl in the World musical... C K Alexander replaced Joseph Bernard, Rhinoceros... Lesley Woods replaced Joan Wetmore, Advise & Consent... Theodore Bikel returned to Sound of Music, he was replaced while ill from ear ailment by Kenneth Harvey... Lili Darvas joined Far Country... Elizebeth Wilson signed for Big Fish, Little Fish... George Marcy added to Carnival... Frederick Loewe taking 12-18 month sabbatical to rest and travel, Alan Jay Lerner to work independently while Loewe on leave.

NYC Calendar

Two for Fun- Madison Ave Playhouse (120 Mad Av)- 2/13. Madison Productions- Marshall Migatz presents two person revue with Mati & Hari, satiric pantomimists.

To Damascus- Theatre East (211 E 60 St)- 2/14. Angela Anderson- Marta Byer present first NY presentation of August Strindberg's drama, directed by Byer with Dolores Dorn-Heft, George W Jones.

Kreutzer Sonata- Maidman Theatre (416 W 42). Patt Stone presents new adaptation of Tolstoi play by and featuring English actors Hannah West and Roderick Lovell. Limited 3 week run prior to presentation at Paris Festival.

There Is A Play Tonight- Theatre Marquee (110 E 59)- 2/15. Joyce Henry - Rosemarry Murray present first NY production of recently discovered Ferenc Molnar comedy, directed by John Bettenbender with Joyce Bulifant, Polly Childs, Robert Dishy. Originally announced for new Jewel Box Theatre, 420 W 42, which is not yet finished.

The Tiger Rag- Cherry Lane (38 Commerce) 2/16. TIRA Productions and Lorin E Price present a new musical play by Seyril Schocken, music by Kenneth Gabburo, directed by Ella Gerber, dances by Peter Conlow with Logan Ramsey, Nancy Andrews, Patricia Roe.

Connelly vs Connelly- Blackfriars Guild (320 W 57) 2/17. Blackfriars present second production of season, a new play by Rev Brendan Larnen, directed by Michael Kray with Derek Murcott, R E Buston, Robert Milton.

Once There Was a Russian- Music Box 2/18. Leonard Key-Morton Segal - Mel Howard-Ken Schwartz present new comedy by Samuel Spewack, directed by Gene Frankel with Walter Matthau, Julie Newmar, Albert Salmi.

Theatre TV Notes

WNTA (NY) Play of the Week Feb 13 is British mystery play The Sound of Murder with Kim Hunter, Zachary Scott, Donald Davis... Hedda Gabler Fourth St Playhouse production taped this week by Telemeter Corp, Pay TV division of Paramount Pictures... CBS TV Ed Sullivan Show Mar 19 to feature Lerner-Loewe Salute with Julie Andrews and Richard Burton.

Off Broadway

Shows that closed include-- A Banquet for the Moon after 22 performances, Ballet Ballads after 37, and The Mousetrap... Three Penny Opera passed Oklahoma long run NY musical record of 2248 performances... The Death of Bessie Smith one act play by Edward Albee will join The American Dream at York, starting Feb 28, in place of the Domino Furioso curtain raiser which started this week. Lawrence Arrick will direct cast headed by Rae Allen, John McCurry, Harold Scott, Robert Blossom.

Twin bill of Women of the Tomb by Michel de Ghelderode and Philoktetes by Harold Steinberg to be presented by George Maxim Ross... The Witch Diggers, Marie Baumer's adaptation of Jessamyn West's novel, to be presented by Charles Smith... The Tattooed Countess, Coleman Dowell's new musical based on Carl Van Vechten's novel, to be produced and directed by Richard Barr, featuring Irene Manning. Producer to split with investors 60% for them, 40% for management... Galgenshumor a new play by Jack Richardson to be presented in Mar by Norman Twain-Helen Kamber, with Gerald Hiken and Julie Bovasso... Ghosts to be next Ibsen revival by David Ross.

Rick Coletti subbed at short notice for four days for Leonardo Cimino, Montserrat, ill with laryngitis... Shelia Coplan, Barbara Ames added to Five Posts in the Market Place.

Theatre Book Notes

"Masters of Ancient Comedy" collection of classic plays edited by Lionel Casson published by Macmillan \$5.75.

Theatre Record Notes

Show Girl cast album recorded by Roulette Records.

Legal Dept

Sen Javits (R-NY) re-introduced his "Arts Foundation" bill Feb 13 in the Senate... Mrs J P McEvoy to launch suit against Show Girl producers claiming prior rights to title used by her late husband for nine Broadway revues... Ralph Bellamy to seek fourth term as president of Actors Equity.

((Late News & Reviews- Supplement))



OFF
BROADWAY
WEEK

Faust- City Center- 2/7-2/19. 5 pro- and 2 con-
Herald Tribune, News- filed on revival of Part I of Goethe's
drama presented in German by Hamburg's Deutsches Schauspielhaus, directed by and starring Gustaf Gruendgens, English translation by John S White, adapted by Alice Raphael, available via transistor radios. Affirmative appraisers recommended presentation by visitors for all serious theatre-fans, though only Post man okayed translation as helpful. Con voters doubted if show would be meaningful without a knowledge of German. Pro side headed by Taubman, Times, who praised finely integrated ensemble company with its neatly controlled flow of tension and relaxation, with teamwork noted in all sorts of details. Coleman, Mirror, recommended event for scholars, students and playgoers seeking drama bigger than life; the production is a flowing, reasonably actable one that moves and has a measure of movement. Watts, Post, approved of impressive, powerfully acted version that was neither fluid nor exceptionally imaginative. Alone among the reviewers Watts praised translation as helpful, despite its sketchiness. McClain, Journal American, with no knowledge of German and with scant help from the translation, found that the superb acting and movement almost carried the evening. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, recommended production as a quietly powerful conception, a hearty treat. Dissenter Kerr, Herald Tribune, feared that conception was so sparse that unless one has a sufficient knowledge of German to follow Goethe's discursive, fragmented and philosophical poem with some closeness, there is relatively little for the eye to feast upon. Watt, News, thought work simply dragged and proved that story needs Gounod's music, the result like a nightmarish visit to the Metropolitan Opera on an evening when the orchestra failed to show up and the singers lost their music.

The Miracle Worker-Playhouse 2/6. 3 pros-Times, Post, World Telegram & Sun-filed on Suzanne Pleshette's replacement of Anne Bancroft in the title role, and for the entire production. Gelb, Times, thought the highest compliment that could be paid Pleshette is that the change is barely noticeable, while the production itself is still fresh and taut. He also cheered now famous pantomime battle scene as as gripping a bit of theatre as we are likely to have on Broadway for a long time to come. Herridge, Post, found newcomer more than equal for difficult role in play that remains a miraculously moving drama of human courage. Saffron, WTS, applauded new interpretation exciting on its own terms in play wrought solidly with faith.

Elsa Lanchester-Herself- 41st St Theatre- 2 /4
4 pros- Times, Post, News, World Telegram & Sun- and 2 cons- Herald Tribune, Journal American- filed on one woman revue, staged by Charles Laughton with Ray Henderson, Don Dollarhide at pianos, presented by Robert Costello-Noel Behn. Majority enjoyed performer and variety of material presented, while negative minority thought she needed better material to showcase herself. Production opened during NYC's snowstorm and hot tea was served to brave first-nighters. Esterow, Times, enjoyed charming star and delightful songs, though he suggested program was a little long. Chapman, News, applauded artful, engaging performance. Herridge, Post, rated Lanchester a genial, lively hostess, fun to be with. Aston, WTS, marked it a gay, swift evening, worldly and colorful, solid with talent, ideal for anyone looking for fun with a redhead. Con viewer Kerr, Herald Tribune, wondered why charmer Lanchester could not charm some smart material out of someone instead of presenting much that is coy. McClain, Journal American, also complimented talents of actress, but panned first half of program as almost embarrassing. The second act was better, but reviewer still could not recommend it as full and rewarding evening of theatre.

"CD" Subscribers are invited to inquire further via mail or phone for more specific details of any current NY or out of town review, as well as any back review.

Three Japanese Plays- Players- 2/3. 4 pros-Times, Post, Journal American, World Telegram & Sun- and 1 con- Herald Tribune- filed on presentation of three short plays-- Sotoba Komachi, The Damask Drum, both by Yukio Mishima, translated by Donald Keene, and Han's Crime by Shiga Naoya translated by Ivan Morris, directed by Herbert Machiz, presented by Helen Menken with June Hunt, Leo Luckner, Virginia Chew. Program was previously presented for short run at NY Asia House. Diverse reasons for approval reported, some for all elements, others for direction only, others for plays only. Sole negative voter blamed lack of ability of actors and translations. Taubman, Times, recommended triple bill for the interesting modern Japanese plays, the first two of which have an individual texture as well as exotic fragrance, and for the simplicity of staging, though critic feared not all the players have the flexibility to match the shimmering quality of the writing. Complete rave review from McClain, Journal American, cheered rich vein of dramatic excitement in which one becomes caught up with a theatrical experience new and compelling. Herridge, Post, okayed it more as a director's and players' showcase, for they evoke more meanings than the words themselves warrant. Aston, WTS, recommended evening for highly cultivated palates only, the works turn on the delicate and elusive, communicating largely by suggestion and indirection. Sole negative appraiser, Morgenstern, Herald Tribune, panned translations as sometimes painfully clumsy, the mood antique or just plain stodgy and the performers unable to invest their parts with much humanity.

The Moon in the Yellow River- East End 2/6. 4 pros-Times, Herald Tribune, Post, World Telegram & Sun- and 2 cons- News, Journal American- filed on revival of 1932 Irish drama by Denis Johnson presented by David Fulford and William Dempsey, directed by Fulford with Roy Poole, Neil Fitzgerald, James Coco, Jonathan Frid. Three of four pros were raves, with only Times aisle-sitter thinking play good, but dated. Taubman, Times, approved of lively performances and direction in play still saturated by Irish gift of mockery and mourning the contradictions of Ireland, though it has lost something in immediacy and is not all of one piece. But other pro voters had no limitations in their rave reviews. Kerr, Herald Tribune, loved evening as both one of the most amusing and the most stimulating of the current season, partly because of the playwright's swordplay is still remarkably resilient and partly because the director has drawn excellent work from the entire cast. Watts, Post, praised the absorbing and beautiful play given excellent performances. Aston, WTS, voted pro for its commendable sincerity and combination of skills, and for its excellent cast in which everyone speaks beautifully. He picked young Nancy Acly as about to break forth as a stunning actress. Con reviewer, Davis, News, rated it more tiresome than entertaining, in spite of its fair amount of lively Irish wit and lyric writing. O'Connor, Journal American, felt production makes Irish look foolish in play with many, too many plots.

Cicero- St Marks- 2/8. 2 pros- Post and Journal American- and 4 cons- Times, Herald Tribune, News, and World Telegram & Sun- filed on new play by 83 year old Upton Sinclair, presented by Norman Seaman, Win Sharpls, Jr and John Ben Tarver, staged by Tarver with James Forster, Kay Chevalier, Joseph Hamer. Two pro appraisers found historical play thoughtful, well written and well-acted. But majority of con critics thought script defeated fine actors by delving too long and too often in lengthy speeches. Watts, Post, agreed play was not very dramatic, but he approved of thoughtful, high-minded, faithful drama, well-acted, --a highly conscientious attempt to write biographical drama, at best mildly stimulating. McClain, Journal American, billed it as generally well-mounted and capably played, and apart from the uneven flow of the action an amiable and thoughtful excursion. Dissenters generally rated it well-played, but dull.



STAGGERING STARS...After a century or more of dominating the stage, the "star system" is staggering and may be on its way out, except for the "summer package", comments Chapman, News. There will still be stars, but they will not be able to rely on their stardom alone at the box-office. They will have to prove that they are stars all over again in each new play.

COLUMN TIPS...Mae West may return to NY again in her Diamond Lil, hears Kilgallen, Journal American... Rosanno Brazzi and Milton Berle to co-star in The Nose of Jerry Pepper hints Farrell, World Telegram & Sun... South Pacific to be an annual spring revival at City Center, reports Lyons, Post.

OFF OFF BWAY...The daily reviewer, assigned to the theatre, has no business in the cabaret-coffee house circuit, states McClain, Journal American. There is an aura about the Broadway theatre of form and tradition and elegance that does not include "singles" from vaudeville or the other arts, tiny night club revues and readings which make little or no use of the facilities of the playhouse... Crosby, Herald Tribune, rates The Premise as fine theatre. The sketches with the players were marked either hilarious or interesting or thought-provoking. Performed at blinding pace they are constantly entertaining. Judging from the first night reviews, Crosby thinks the revue has deepened and broadened and become more polished.

MOK OBIT...Michael Mok, Broadway press agent and former drama reviewer, was a gentleman, a scholar and a brilliant reporter, recalls Watts, Post.

CLAUDETTE & "JULIA"...Chapman, News, would have thought that Claudette Colbert could have carried Julia, Jake and Uncle Joe, which closed after its first and only performance, along at least for a while, but the producers did not think so... Sobol, Journal American, credits star with gameness and devotion to the code of the true performer--the show must go on. Well aware how hopeless was her play, she did not plead illness, fatigue or anything else to get out of opening on Broadway with it.

ARENA TAXES...Federal government should assign a task force to study the problems of the Arena Stages, Washington, D. C., and should help plan a fight to get the District of Columbia to abolish the \$15,000 annual real estate tax that will be due on its new playhouse... But Coe, Washington Post, told "ANTA Assembly" that such action would be unfair and a mistake.

CRITICAL THOUGHTS...What the theatre needs is not so much expertise as freshness--a Willa Cather or a Sinclair Lewis, fresh from the sticks, who never had a meal at Sardi's, and doesn't even know where it is, sighs Crosby, Herald Tribune... The real point about Advise & Consent is not how faithful or faithless a copy it is, remarks Lerner, Post, but what it does say about life and American politics. The result is deeply depressing for from the President down these politicians do things in public life from which they would shrink in private life.

DRAMA MAIL BOX...Times reader pans Taubman's notices of Rhinoceros and Advise & Consent as more political analysis than drama criticism, with no resulting contribution to either... McHarry, News, reader complains that her "two-for-one" tickets to Cypsy were not honored at a matinee, though they did not explain that only "limited" locations were available.

SECOND GUESSES...Two daily reviewers devoted their Sun, articles to The American Dream. But both Kerr, Herald Tribune, and Watts, Post, hope that Edward Albee will soon be able to be rated on a full length play, rather than more one act dramas.

Faust is another welcome addition to the modern theatre course being presented by the City Center. The Hamburg company's presentation of the Goethe legend is always interesting, and very often exciting. The closely knit company headed by the ingenious characterization of "Metphistoheles" by its direction Gustaf Grundgens is a must for every serious student of theatre. The unique German lighting methods often evoke more of a mood than the text or the acting, while the setting is on the skimpy side. Translation via transistor radios is helpful, but not of the inspired quality City Center audiences were spoiled with during the visit of the Grand Kabuki.

The **Miracle Worker** is still exciting theatre 16 months after its original opening. The two new leading players, Suzanne Pleschette who entered the cast this week for Anne Bancroft, and Clarice Blackburn who has been portraying the role of the mother originated by Pat O'Neal, are both excellent. In the vital role Patty Duke continues her perfect performance, probably one of the most difficult roles ever devised for the modern stage.

Donogoo is a hilarious, witty comedy with excellent comic performances by its large cast. If the momentum of the on-stage madness slackens in its full-swinging attack on modern banking and advertising methods, it is a safety gap before the next bout of insane fun. Especially well presented are the sewerage montage sequences at the start of the acts, as funny live as anything every attempted and edited on film.

Midgie Purvis is a unique combination enterprise--a delightful, funny sentimental children's fantasy and a soapy, adult comedy with too few really inspired moments for adults. Both star the fabulous Tallulah who can change stances of age as fast as she has always been able to shift emotions. Taken as a professionally staged children's play, at slightly inflated prices, this tribute of Mary Chase to kids and more playful mothers, will delight all youngsters and some simple-minded adults who enjoy the combination of fantasy and sentimental humor in the proper doses. More mature minds will marvel at the talent of the entire cast, but will join the group in prayers that someday, somebody, someplace will write a good part for the famous actress.

While theatre people have taken a quiet pride in the fact that President Kennedy is a theatre fan, they had better wait until all the returns are in. Last week-end he deserted the cause and attended "Spartacus" in Washington. Missing the opening credits, the management kindly started the film over again for the Chief Executive. Obviously both the National Theatre and Arena Stages, in Washington, will have to extend equal courtesy if they expect the patronage of the Kennedys. In NYC the President had better get to the theatre on time, because even the most Democrat stage-hand is not going to move the scenery back to the first scene.

Two contradicting impressions emerge from the four days of "ANTA Assembly" sessions. The first, and most important is that the theatre is far from dead, it has just moved out of NYC. Neither Broadway nor the "provinces" fully realize the impact of the sudden growth of many new college and community theatres, most of whom have plenty of money to spend for professional guest actors and for visiting playwrights. The second, and sadder fact, is that a tremendous amount of negative ground-work is constantly going on to kill theatre. The college theatre is afraid of the community theatre, both join to fight any possible road tours, etc. There seem to be about as many people employed in trying to murder theatre as there are those developing theatre.

Feb 13, 1961 NYC THEATRE FACT CHART- CRITICAL DIGEST-139 E 47, NYC EL 5-6894

Theatre Fact Chart presents up-to-minute data on current business and critical reaction on current Broadway & Off Broadway shows. Top week endprices, opening dates listed.

SUBSCRIBERS ONLY may write or phone for any other specific critical data and/or for specific details of late NYC reviews and Out of Town tryout reviews.

"C"-Critical-figures refer to percentage of PRO votes filed by 7NYC reviewers. PRO means show was recommended for entertaining and/or stimulating evening, not if critic predicted if show would be a commercial hit (earn back its investment.)

"B"-Business-figures refer to percentage of gross ticket sales last week and indicates current availability of tickets. Figures that follow, all in thousands of dollars, are gross capacity (CAP) and corrected Variety grosses of past weeks. Thus 100% B Cap \$80-\$80-means show was a sellout this week at \$80000, last week's gross was \$70,000, etc.

ADVISE & CONSENT Cort \$7.50 11/17/60	138 W 48 CI 5-4289	70% C- 2 Con- Times, Post- 4 raves 90% B- Cap \$40--\$33 \$33 \$36 \$36 \$30
ALL WAY HOME Belasco \$7.50 11/30/60	111 W 44 JU 6-7950	70% C- 2 Con- News, WTS 45% B- Cap \$38--\$14 \$15 \$14 \$15 \$15
BECKET Royale \$7.50 10/5/60	241 W 45 CI 5-5760	90% C- 4 raves-1 Con- Times 75% B- Cap \$45--\$36 \$32 \$35 \$34 \$31
BEST MAN Morosco \$7.50 3/31/60	235 W 45 CI 6-6230	100% C- 7 pro- 3 raves 50% B- Cap \$42--\$21 \$25 \$25 \$26 \$24
BYE BYE BIRDIE Shubert \$8.60 4/14/60	225 W 44 CI 6-5990	90% C- 1 Con- Times- rest raves 65% B- Cap \$60--\$41 \$44 \$43 \$43
CAMELOT Majestic \$9.40 12/3/60	245 W 44 CI 6-0730	40% C- 3 Pro-News, WTS, J Am 100% B- Cap \$84--\$84 \$84 \$84 \$84 \$86
CRITICS CHOICE Barrymore \$7.50 12/14/60	247 W 47 CI 6-0390	40% C- 3 Pro- News, J Am, WTS 65% B- Cap \$40--\$28 \$31 \$34 \$35 \$23
DO RE MI St James \$9.40 12/26/60	246 W 44 LA 4-4664	90% C- 1 Con- WTS- 5 raves-Times mild 100 % B- Cap \$70--\$70 \$71 \$71 \$70 \$70
FIORELLLO! Broadhurst \$9.40 11/23/59	235 W 44 CI 6-6699	100% C- 5 raves-Post, WTS mild book 75% B- Cap \$58--\$42 \$44 \$44 \$44 \$43
GYPSY Imperial \$9.40 5/2/59	249 W 45 CO 5-2412	100% C- 7 pro- J Am milder book 70% B- Cap \$64--\$45 \$49 \$35 \$35 \$31
HOW TO MAKE MAN Atkinson \$7.50 2/2/61	250 W 47 CI 5-1310	0% C- 7 con- unanimous
IRMA LA DOUCE Plymouth \$8.60 9/28/60	236 W 45 CI 6-9156	90% C- 1 Con- H Trib 95% B- Cap \$49--\$46 \$48 \$49 \$49 \$48
MIDGIE PURVIS Beck \$7.50 2/1/61	302 W 45 CI 6-6363	60% C- 4 Pro- H Trib, News, WTS, J Am
MIKE & ELAINE Golden \$6.90 10/8/60	246 W 45 CI 6-6740	100% C- 7 pro for 2 person revue 100% B- Cap \$30--\$29 \$28 \$29 \$30
MIRACLE WORKER Playhouse \$7.50 10/19/60	137 W 48 CI 5-6060	100% C- 3 pros for Pleschette 85% B- Cap \$38--\$31 \$29 \$28 \$26 \$25
MUSIC MAN Broadway \$8.05 12/19/57	1681 Bway CI 7-7992	100% C- 6 raves- H Trib milder 45% B- Cap \$72--\$30 \$35 \$30 \$30 \$32
MY FAIR LADY Hellinger \$8.05 3/15/56	235 W 51 PL 7-7064	100% C- 7 raves play 50% B- Cap \$70--\$35 \$35 \$36 \$36 \$65
PERIOD OF ADJUSTMENT Hayes \$7.50 11/10/60	206 W 46 CI 6-6380	70% C- 2 Con- Times, WTS-Closes 2/18 45% B- Cap \$43--\$19 \$24 \$22 \$18 \$14
RHINOCEROS Longacre \$6.90 1/9/61	220 W 48 CI 6-5639	90% C- 1 Con- Mirror 75% B- Cap \$37--\$29 \$27 \$22 \$21
SHOW GIRL O'Neill \$7.50 1/12/61	230 W 49 CI 6-8870	70% C- 2 Con- Mirror, Post 50% B- Cap \$45--\$23 \$31 \$30
SOUND OF MUSIC Lunt \$9.90 11/16/59	205 W 46 JU 6-5555	90% C- 1 Con- H Trib- 3 raves 100% B- Cap \$75--\$75 \$76 \$75 \$74 \$77
TASTE OF HONEY Lyceum \$6.90 10/4/60	149 W 45 JU 6-9854	70% C- 2 Con- News, Mir 50% B- Cap \$32--\$17 \$17 \$20 \$20 \$17
TENDERLOIN 46th St \$8.60 10/17/60	226 W 46 CI 6-4271	30% C- 2 Pro- News, WTS (both raves) 65% B- Cap \$64--\$36 \$42 \$44 \$44 \$34
TENTH MAN Ambass \$7.50 11/5/59	215 W 49 CO 5-1855	100% C- 7 pro-3 raves-News, Times 40% B- Cap \$32--\$14 \$12 \$16 Moved.
TOYS IN ATTIC Hudson \$7.50 2/25/60	141 W 44 JU 6-2237	100% C- 5 raves-Times, J Am milder 40% B- Cap \$40--\$16 \$17 \$15 \$15 \$12 \$12
UNDER YUM YUM Miller \$7.50 11/16/60	124 W 43 BR 9-3970	40% C- 3 Pro- News, Times, WTS 25% B- Cap \$40--\$10 \$11 \$14 \$15 \$11 \$10
UNSINKABLE M. BROWN W Garden \$9.40 11/3/60	1634 Bway CI 5-4878	70% C- 2 Con- News, Mir 90 % B- Cap \$68--\$56 \$60 \$62 \$63
THE WALL Rose \$7.50 10/11/60	208 W 41 WI 7-5510	40% C- 3 Pro-Raves-Times, News, WTS 20% B- Cap \$46--\$11 \$11 \$19 \$18 \$13
WILDCAT Alvin \$9.40 12/16/60	250 W 52 CI 5-5226	40% C- 3 Pro- News, Mir, WTS SUSPENDED TO Feb 20 -

OFF BROADWAY

AM DREAM York \$4.50 1/24/61	64 & 1st TR 9-4130	4 Pro-News, Post, WTS, J Am 2 Con- Times, H Trib
BALCONY Circle \$4.50 3/3/60	159 Bleecker GR 3-9450	3 Pro- Times, Post, WTS 3 Con-H Trib, News, J Am
CALL ME NAME 1 Sher Sq YU 9-1335	141 W 13 CH 3-6800	5 Pro- 1 Con- Times- No Mirror filed
DONOGOO G Mews \$3.60 1/18/61	125 W 41 BR 9-3631	2 Pro- Times, J Am 4 Con- H Trib, News, Post, WTS
ELSA LANCHESTER 41st St \$4.60 2/4/61	100-7th Av S OR 4-1036	4 Pro- Times, News, Post, WTS 2 Con- H Trib, J Am
EPITAPH G. DILLON Actor Play \$4.60 12/28/60	181 Sullivan OR 4-3838	3 Pro- Times, Post, WTS 3 Con- H Trib, News, J Am
FANTASTICKS Sullivan \$4.60 5/3/60	83 E 4 AL 4-4795	5 Pro 1 Con- H Trib (No Mirror)
HEDDA GABLER 4th St \$4.60 11/9/60	162-2nd Av CR 4-3960	7 Pro- Unanimous raves Anne Meacham
KRAPPS LAST TAPE Crickett \$4.60 1/14/60	99-7th Av S CH 2-9244	6 Pro- No Mirror filed
LEAVE IT TO JANE Sher Sq \$5 5/25/59	126-2nd Av OR 4-8140	5 Pro- 2 Con- H Trib, News
LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE Orpheum \$4.95 11/18/59	162-2nd Av OR 4-8140	6 Pro- 4 raves- No Mirror
MONTERRAT Gate \$3.90 1/8/61	85 E 4 AL 4-9520	5 Pro- No News, Mirror
MOON YELLOW RIVER East End \$4.60 2/6/61	189-2nd Av OR 4-7160	4 Pro- Times, H Trib, Post, WTS 4 Con- News, J Am
OCTOORON Phoenix \$4.60 1/27/61	185 Thomp GR 5-5120	6 Pro- No Mirror
O OYSTERS V. Gate \$4.60 1/30/61	154 Bleecker LF 3-5020	2 Pro- Times, WTS 4 Con- H Trib, News, Post, J Am
PREMISE Premise \$4.60 11/22/60	115 Macdoug AL 4-5076	3 Pro- News, J Am, WTS 3 Con- Times, H Trib, Post
3 JAP PLAYS Players \$3.90 2/3/61	121 Chris WA 4-8782	4 Pro-Times, Post, WTS, J Am 1 Con- H Trib

NYC THEATRE CALENDAR

After the Angels- West 3rd St- 2/10	Night Grand Guignol- 3/1
Two for Fun- Mad Av- 2/13	13 Daughters- 54th St 3/2
To Damascus- T East 2/14	Britannicus- C Center 3/2
Kreutzer Sonata- Maidman 2/15	Roots- Mayfair- 3/6
There is Play Tonight- T Marquee 2/15	5 Posts in Market Place- Gate 3/6
Tiger Rag- C Lane- 2/16	Le Dindon- C Center 3/7
Connelly vs Connelly- Blackfrairs 2/17	Mary, Mary- Hayes 3/8
Once There Was Russian- M Box 2/18	Devil's Advocate- Rose 3/9
Double Entry- Martineau- 2/20	Importance of Oscar- Lyceum 3/14
Comedie Francaise- C Center 2/21	Big Fish, Little Fish- ANTA, 3/1 5
Come Blow Your Horn- Atkinson 2/22	Hamlet- Phoenix 3/16
Walk- Up- Provincetown- 2/23	Donnybrook- 3/17
Rendezvous in Senlis- Gram Arts 2/27	Far Country- 3/22
Bessie Smith- York- 2/28	Happiest Girl in World- Beck 3/30
Tartuffe- C Center 2/28	
Red Roses for Me- G Mews 2/7	Whole Darn Shooting Match- 4/3
	Carnival- 4/13
	How to Succeed- 5/25
	Carte Blanche- Shubert 5/7

"CD PROS & CONS "

PROS: All current ON & OFF Broadway productions except the following:

CONS: Camelot, Critic's Choice, Sound of Music, Tenderloin, Tenth Man
Call Me by Rightful Name, O, Oysters.



\$25 check
Bill Co

This weekly NYC THEATRE NEWSLETTER DIGEST SERVICE-now in its 11th year of service to theatre teachers, students, professionals--college drama departments, community theatres, college and public libraries--presents each week of the year a concise 15 minute summary of all theatre news, comments, reviews, etc- published in the past week's 2100 pages of 7 NYC daily newspapers. Plus weekly "Outer Broadway Theatre Letter" supplement giving exclusive coverage of outstanding College, Community, Summer theatre productions coast to coast. Also free critical research on specific data and/or on specific details of late NYC theatre reviews and Out of Town tryout reviews via mail, phone. \$25 per year for full service. Back volumes available from Oct 1956 \$25 per year. "CD" is the perfect theatre gift.

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OUTER BROADWAY
THEATRE LETTER

College-----Community---- Summer

Feb 13, 1961 Vol XII No 47. The Weekly Supplement of "Critical Digest"-139 E 47, NYC EI 5-6894 \$25 per year for full "CD" Service

College Theatre

"Medieval Drama Workshop" to be held Feb 24-26 at Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana to feature joint production with students of 11 colleges, directed by E. Martin Browne and Henzie Raeburn.

Assignment in Judea, a new religious drama by Patrick Welch to be presented by professional cast and students of Florida State University, Tallahassee for 23 performances at nearby colleges. First performance Mar 1 will be in Tallahassee. Directed by student Richard Fallon, the professional cast members include Eddie Dowling, Frederic Tozere, Louise Albritton, Knight Dhiagh. Cost of \$12,000 to cover expenses raised by Dowling. If successful, production may be presented in NY in fall.

Hofstra College, Hempstead, NY 12th Annual Shakespeare Festival set for Mar 10-19 featuring Love's Labour's Lost... Life is a Dream by Calderon de la Barca to be presented by NYU School of Education Dept of Dramatic Art, Washington Sq Feb 17-18... Dimitri Rondris, the founder of Greek National Theatre, Athens, arrived in US to direct six week workshop rehearsals and production of Electra, rather than Helen, at Institute of Advanced Studies in Theatre Arts, NYC.

"Theatre as an Educational and Cultural Resource" lecture series of 15 Sat morning sessions with Mildred Dunnock to be presented by Phoenix Theatre for NY teachers, who will receive Board of Education credit. First lecture is by Douglas Seale, British director, who will speak Feb 11 on "A Director's Approach to Hamlet." Other listed speakers are Lehman Engel and E. Martin Browne.

Playhouses

New Detroit legit theatre to open in Sept being constructed at cost of \$2 million to Fisher Brothers, to replace current Riviera and Shubert Theatres. Designed by Rapp and Rapp, with Ralph Alswang technical consultant, house will seat 1600 to 2300. It will be managed by Joseph Nederlander.

Winter Repertory

The 49th Cousin with Menasha Skulnik to be presented for two weeks at Coconut Grove Theatre, Miami ... Send Me No Flowers with David Wayne and Nancy Olson to be presented Feb 27 at Royal Poinciana Playhouse, Palm Beach, Fla... The Man Who Came to Dinner with Walter Abel and Paulette Goddard presented Feb 21 at Tapia Theatre San Juan... The Solid Gold Cadillac to star Martha Raye at opening of spring season Apr 19 at S Casa Manana, Fort Worth. Operation Madball with Sal Mineo also to be presented during season.

Summer Playhouses

Elaine Malbin to star in Paradise Island, new musical to be presented by Guy Lombardo this summer at Jones Beach Marine Theatre, NY.

Shakespeare

NY Shakespeare Festival production of Romeo and Juliet officially opened its tour of NYC high schools with a one week stand of daytime performances at William Howard Taft High School, Bronx, and will play the week of Feb 13 at Frances Lewis High School, Flushing, Queens... Jules Munshin, Show Girl, to appear next season with Stratford Memorial Festival, London.

Road Shows.

Bill Hayes signed for leading role in touring company of Bye Bye Birdie.



BULLETIN

BOARD

EDITION

"Bulletin Board Edition" of "CD" will soon be available to college and community theatre subscribers on request at no extra cost. Printed on one side only it will be designed for posting to make "CD" available to staff, members, teachers, students, etc. Notice will soon be sent to college and community theatre subscribers asking if they want to receive either the "Bulletin Board Edition" or continue with the "News Letter Edition."

London

The Sound of Music to star Jean Bayless, who replaced Julie Andrews in original London company of The Boy Friend... Harold Pinter, author of The Caretaker, to join cast of his London hit for a month, starring for Alan Bates who will make a film... A Banquet for the Moon to be presented in London by its NY producer Robert Woods... Clinton Wilder to present Jack Richardson's new drama Galgenshumor in London this season.

Tryout Calendar

Come Blow Your Horn-Walnut Philadelphia 2/6

Devil's Advocate-Colonial, Boston 2/6

Happiest Girl in the World-Shubert, New Haven 2/18

Mary, Mary-Wilbur, Boston 2/13

13 Daughters-Shubert, Philadelphia 2/6

Calendar- Current Road Tours

At the Drop of Hat-Shubert, Detroit 2/13

Fiorello-Toronto 2/13

Five Finger Exercise-Denver 2/16

Flower Drum Song-Shubert, Chicago 11/14

Hostage-Forrest, Philadelphia 2/13

Majority of One-Shubert, Cincinnati 2/13

Music Man-Municipal, Birmingham 2/13

My Fair Lady-Shubert, Boston 1/2

Raisin in Sun-American, St-Louis 2/13



ANTA ASSEMBLY HI-LITES

400 theatre leaders from all over the country attended the third annual "ANTA Assembly" Feb 5-8 at Hotel Edison, NYC. 700 were expected but severe snowstorms throughout the country halted all but the most hardy. Panel meetings, informal discussions and luncheon sessions were devoted to diverse aspects of the over-all theme of the confab--"The Contemporary American Theatre-Substance or Vacuum?" Following are some of the comments by speakers at various panels:

RICHARD COE: Washington Post drama critic-- The theatre is not making enough of a contribution to American culture. The professional theatre has abandoned theatre outside of NY, and the leaders of the industry do not have a clue what goes on outside NY and they also do not give a damn. Thus a potential audience of 100 million is by-passed and priced out. It could contribute to culture if it could lead in approach to a mass audience, and if the theatre industry would help in all-out effort to raise the educational standards throughout the nation. Patience, enthusiasm of the theatre for such a project could change the balance of culture in the nation.

GEORGE OPPENHEIMER--Newsday, Hempstead, NY, drama critic-- Theatre does provide an artistic contribution to the US, but it has been a waning one. Theatre interest has been going down as prices have been going up. Too many playwrights have neither the skill nor the inclination to paint in large figures. They take the camera instead of the brush, with slices of life cut thin and served without relish or seasoning.

STELLA ADLER--actress- The leaders of the US commercial theatre have not been equipped for many years in their responsibilities to the public. Thus they could not be trusted if a subsidized theatre was possible. . . Lincoln Center project is a good idea, but art never came from a big building. It always starts in small cellars and works its way up to such buildings.

EDITH ATWATER--actress- If local repertory companies wish NY actors to leave home base they must offer them something more than the chance to contribute to culture of a community. Actors must work under conditions both cultural and economic. If actors' agents could take care of their clients while they are out of town, plan their career for the future, etc, the actor would feel more secure in leaving town. The pioneer actors of today who do go out to repertory around the country are the solid artists of tomorrow.

PETER WITT-- agent- Clients are always advised to seek employment and to study their craft wherever they can. The actors who do go out of town often welcome the spirit of the group, but feel much of the over-all work is on an amateur basis. It is simply not enough to get a star to a campus to do Shakespeare if the supporting players do not know their craft. NY actors will help if the groups themselves realize the automatic limitations to their plans. The Tyrone Guthrie Theatre will have a tremendous influence on other cities, and might build up a reservoir of exciting talented theatre people around the country.

W. MCNEIL LOWRY-- Ford Foundation- The Ford Foundation Repertory program was set up to test if NY actors would go out on a full year's contract at \$10,000 per year and if cities outside of NY would accept theatre as a cultural resource. Though there will be probably more residential theatres outside of NY, there is no way of knowing if the cities are willing to pay for it. There is also no way of knowing if the local drama critics will accept it if it is established.

PEGGY WOOD-- actress- American theatre audience has been brain-washed by 30 years of activity of the motion picture industry, determined to kill off the regular theatre-going habit. For two generations they have been successful, and it is up to theatre to devise means to renew the habit.

((Continued Next Week))



LATE NYC NEWS & REVIEWS

LATE NYC NEWS: The Mousetrap which was scheduled to close at the Maidman, will move to Greenwich Mews. Donogoo at Greenwich Mews closed after 35 performances... Jerry Orbach, recently in The Fantasticks and Three Penny Opera, to play opposite Anna Maria Albergheiti in Carnival due Apr 13 at Imperial... Salome Jens signed for Far Country ... Two for Fun to have 9 PM curtain nightly... Bob Mariano replaced Dean Stolber, Bye Bye Birdie... Joyce Ebert and Donald Madden to be featured in Hamlet at Phoenix Mar 16. ... English actors Mary Mercier and Gene Wilder will appear in Roots.

King of the Dark Chambers--Jan Hus 2/9. 5 pros- Times, News, Post, Journal American, World Telegram & Sun- and 1 con- Herald Tribune- filed on Indian play by Rabindranath Tagore, translated by author, staged by Krishna Shah, presented by Van Joyce-Harold Leventhal-Pat Newhall with Surya Kumari, Brock Peters, Bhasker. Affirmative majority recommended it for serious playgoers as an unusual experience combining dance, mime, drama. Single negative reviewer blamed cast and stilted translation. First play by Indian author to be presented in NY was composed in 1910, Taubman, Times, applauded script, director, cast, designer, etc. Admitting he did not know if local edition was faithful representation of Indian theatre, but he did enjoy the overall charm and its appeal to the mind as well as to the senses. Davis, News, approved of highly specialized type of theatre fare and especially the dances by Bhasker. Watts, Post, enjoyed defiant challenge to venturesome theatregoing in the production staged with vigor and movement. Post aisle-sitter felt presence of beautiful Indian film star Kumari provides the human warmth that is most valuable. McClain, Journal American, joined colleagues in praise for direction, cast and costumes in notable tribute to famous Indian author. Aston, WTS, was tickled pink by vigorously specialized performance which left him refreshed. Dissenter Morgenstern, Herald Tribune, could approve of only the magnificent voice of title player Peters, and feared his associates are less successful in coping with the stylized conventions of Indian drama. Their cause is not aided much by the author's own translation that descends too often into stiff-jointed prose. Herald Tribune man also noted play itself is difficult to appreciate even if the spectator applies himself beforehand to the informative program notes.

